

and woman, and that their interests can be lost in all the special pleading.

Hoosiers are rightly concerned about the influence lobbyists have in our federal government. The efforts of lobbyists can at times go too far—giving lavish gifts to influential Members, helping to funnel large contributions to campaign coffers, using strong-arm tactics to get action on their particular agenda, and drafting entire sections of bills or official committee reports. Current lobbying regulations requiring the public disclosure of lobbyists' expenses and activities are vague and are generally considered inadequate.

Lobbyists' efforts can cancel each other out. Members of Congress often witness a clash of sophisticated and aggressive interest groups attempting to achieve contradictory policy goals. They push and pull in so many different directions that nothing seems to move anywhere. They add many issues to the public agenda and that just makes it much more difficult to get legislation passed—hence gridlock and a greater level of public dissatisfaction.

NEED FOR REFORM

All of this has brought about more pressure for lobbying reform. I support several reforms. We should require disclosure of who is paying the lobbyist, how much is being paid, what federal agencies and congressional committees are being lobbied, and the issues involved. Lobbyists should be required to identify how much is being spent on activities such as mass mailing campaigns. We should prohibit Members of Congress and their staffs from accepting gifts from lobbyists. Voters have a right to be skeptical about some of the gifts Members can now legally take. We should also require the public disclosure of bill language or committee report language drafted by lobbyists. The Senate recently passed measures to impose a gift ban and to improve lobbying disclosure; the House should follow suit.

Lobbying reform is needed, but it must be balanced. We must not reach too far and try to restrict legitimate lobbying activities and public contact with Members of Congress. Almost any attempt by the government to limit private and nongovernmental entities from using their own private funds to lobby will be difficult due to the First Amendment. Individuals who lobby on their own behalf or volunteers who lobby on behalf of a group should not be covered. In regulating lobbyists we have to be very careful to protect free speech and specifically careful to exclude from regulation contacts from churches and related groups.

CONCLUSION

Lobbying will always remain an important part of our political process because of the First Amendment right to petition the government for redress of grievances, but there are abuses that need to be checked. Our goals should not be to try to stamp out lobbying entirely, but to improve the current system so that it becomes more open and accountable and enables us to take the multiplicity of interests in this country and forge them into the national interest.

TRIBUTE TO DON BOSCO TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 1995

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Don Bosco Technical Institute.

Bosco Tech is celebrating 40 years of service to the San Gabriel Valley and the Greater Los Angeles area. Since 1955, young men have tackled the rigorous and challenging curriculum that this notable high school offers.

Like most high schools, Bosco Tech offers college preparatory academic courses, interscholastic athletics and extracurricular activities. What sets this school apart from the rest is the intensive instruction and practical experience in technology. Students specialize in technological areas such as, design, electronics and computer, graphic communication, manufacturing, materials science, power and transportation, and construction technology. Students select one of these areas to concentrate on after first taking introductory courses in at least four of the previously mentioned subjects. Based on their preference, as well as faculty and parental consultation, students select a final technological major.

Bosco Tech students also have the option of remaining at the school for a fifth year of study. During this time, they can attain an associate of science degree in their selected areas of specialization. Whichever option a student chooses, he will be significantly more prepared for the challenges that await than many of his peers.

The methods used at Bosco Tech are a definite success. Their acceptance rate at major colleges and universities for graduates is unparalleled in the Greater Los Angeles area. Bosco Tech alumni are leaders in their fields and communities. It is no surprise that they attribute much of their success to their time spent at Bosco Tech.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this widely recognized and respected school. For 40 years, Don Bosco Technical Institute has invested in the future of America by preparing tomorrow's leaders.

SALUTE TO THE CENTENNIAL AN- NIVERSARY OF OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL RECTORY

HON. THOMAS M. FOGLIETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 1995

Mr. FOGLIETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the centennial anniversary of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Rectory.

In 1896, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Rectory was established on 2319 South Third Street, in South Philadelphia. Our Lady of Mount Carmel Rectory has witnessed many changes throughout the years. Our Lady of Mount Carmel Rectory has been blessed with 10 pastors since its creation including the founding pastor, the Rev. Bernard F. Gallagher, to the present pastor, the Rev. Gerald D. Canavan. Today the church hosts many organizations to reach out to its parishioners: Catholic Youth Organization, Senior Citizens' Club, Parish Choir, Pastoral Council. The parish also maintains a grammar school of 457 pupils which will lead Our Lady of Mount Carmel into the next century.

In April 1996, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Rectory's parishioners will proudly celebrate their 100th anniversary with events beginning in October 1995, and lasting through Sunday, April 14, 1996, with a concelebrated Mass at which the Most Reverend Anthony J.

Bevilacqua, Archbishop of Philadelphia will be the main celebrant.

I hope my colleagues will join me today in wishing Rev. Gerald D. Canavan and the congregation of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Rectory a very happy 100th anniversary. I wish Our Lady of Mount Carmel Rectory the very best in its next 100 years of service to the American Catholic community in South Philadelphia.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MATTHEW G. MARTINEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 1995

Mr. MARTINEZ. Mr. Speaker, although I intended to vote for S. 21, the Bosnia and Herzegovina Self-Defense Act, on August 1, 1995, my vote was recorded in the negative. As my voting record reflects, I have consistently supported all efforts to lift the arms embargo on Bosnia and Herzegovina.

TRIBUTE TO EUPHRATES ABBITT, OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 1995

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to join the family, friends, and coworkers of Euphrates Abbitt in recognizing her 33 dedicated, consecutive years of service to our community. Her retirement from Key Biscayne Elementary on June 23, 1995, was truly a loss for the Dade County Public Schools.

Euphrates graduated from Middle Township High School in Cape May Court House, NJ, in 1957. She began her higher learning at Edward Waters College period in Jacksonville, FL, and received a BS degree from Florida A&M University. Euphrates continued her studies in the field of education as she graduated with honors from Indiana University with a master of science in Education. She continued her postgraduate work in education at the University of Miami and Florida International University.

Euphrates Abbitt began her long career in education as a creative fourth grade teacher at Poinciana Park Elementary. She eventually taught all elementary grades. Through her hard work and willingness to learn new techniques, Euphrates soon became known among her peers for her dedication to teaching excellence.

In 1969, when integration was introduced into the Dade County Schools, Euphrates Abbitt was among those teachers who made it happen. She felt close to the students she taught, and they had confidence in her. She expresses, "If I can reach just one child, then my efforts are worth it."

Over the many years of Euphrates' career, she successfully carried out various assignments including serving as assistant principal and acting principal of Key Biscayne Elementary School. She has been the recipient of numerous awards, certificates, plaques, proclamations, and mementoes through the years from her community, colleagues, and students.